



State of California  
Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Los Angeles Region

Public Notice  
September 2013

CEQA Process for Cleanup of the  
Carousel Tract Community

## Introduction

The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) is soliciting input from the community and stakeholders on the scope and content of the environmental documents to be prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). By the end of 2013, Shell Oil Products U.S. (Shell) will be required to submit a cleanup strategy, known as a Remedial Action Plan, or RAP, that details how Shell proposes to clean up soil and groundwater contamination in the community that was caused by activities at the Former Kast Tank Farm.

In compliance with CEQA, the Regional Board is hosting a scoping meeting to allow the public and government agencies an opportunity to provide comments regarding: 1) potentially significant environmental impacts that cleanup activities may have on the environment, 2) measures that can be taken to avoid or reduce those impacts, and 3) feasible remedial alternatives or mitigation measures that should be considered in cleanup of the Carousel Tract community.

### COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE CEQA SCOPING MEETING

Tuesday, September 24, from 6 to 8 p.m.  
Carson Center  
Carson-Dominguez Ballroom, Hall 'A'  
801 East Carson Street  
Carson, CA 90745

The Regional Board will host a public CEQA scoping meeting to gather input from the community and stakeholders. This scoping meeting is intended to reach both the local community and public agencies. Members of the general public are also welcome to attend.

### WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD

The Regional Board will accept written comments on CEQA scoping during the public comment period. Written **comments will be accepted from September 9 through October 8**. Please submit written comments postmarked or emailed by 5 p.m., **October 8** to:

Regional Water Quality Control Board  
320 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200  
Attn: Cynthia Miller, Public Participation Specialist  
Los Angeles, CA 90013  
[cynthia.miller@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:cynthia.miller@waterboards.ca.gov)

## **Project Background**

The Regional Board issued a Cleanup and Abatement Order in 2011 that requires Shell to propose and submit a RAP by the end of 2013 for the cleanup of the Carousel Tract community. The approval of the RAP is subject to CEQA. For purposes of CEQA, the Regional Board will be evaluating the environmental impacts associated with the implementation of the RAP, in particular, the impacts associated with the possible methods to be used and the extent of the cleanup. Shell has evaluated several different methods during pilot tests for cleaning up the site, including:

- Soil vapor extraction (SVE)
- Excavation of soils impacted by petroleum hydrocarbons;
- Bioventing to biodegrade petroleum hydrocarbons in shallow soils;
- In-Situ chemical oxidation using ozone gas for cleanup of shallow soil;
- Remedial technologies for cleanup of the vadose zone for protection of groundwater and groundwater cleanup.

The Regional Board is seeking comments on the scope of the CEQA document, including comments regarding the types of cleanup methods and extent of cleanup.

## **California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**

CEQA is a state law that requires a project's lead agency to evaluate the significant environmental effects of proposed remedial actions before approving them. The Regional Board is the lead agency under CEQA with

respect to the cleanup at the Carousel Tract community. The Regional Board is beginning the CEQA process, which includes the following steps:

- Hold a scoping meeting to receive input from the public, including community members, and other governmental agencies with jurisdiction in the project area.
- Issue a Notice of Preparation if preparing an Environmental Impact Report.
- Prepare a draft EIR or Negative Declaration describing existing conditions in the project area, analyzing the project's significant environmental effects, and identifying measures to avoid, reduce, or mitigate significantly adverse environmental impacts of the remedial process.
- Distribute the draft EIR (or Negative Declaration) and draft RAP for a 30 or 45-day public review period and obtain comments from agencies and the public.
- Prepare written responses to comments received during the public comment period.
- Prepare and certify the final EIR or approve the Negative Declaration.
- Make a decision on the proposed action.
- File the Notice of Determination (NOD).

## **Status of Project Milestones**

The Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO) required Shell to submit a site-specific cleanup goal report proposing cleanup goals for the community. In May of this year, that report was circulated for a 30-day public comment period, and evaluations were received from the state Office of Environmental Health Hazard

Assessment and an expert panel from the University of California Los Angeles.

After considering comments and the requirements of the CAO, the Regional Board Executive Officer has directed Shell to revise the report and resubmit by October 21 taking into consideration applicable State Water Resources Control Board and Regional Board policies and guidance governing selection of cleanup goals and to reevaluate the goals to assure protection of unrestricted residential land uses and groundwater quality beneath the site as required by the CAO.

### **Information Resources**

The Regional Board invites and encourages you to learn more about this project and to participate in the Regional Board's decision making process. Workplans, sampling results and assessment reports for the site are available for public review. For your convenience, relevant project documents have been placed at the Carson Public Library. The complete administrative file is available for review at the Regional Board's office and can also be accessed on the Regional Board's website at the URL listed in the right column of this page.

### **Information Repository Locations**

#### **Carson Public Library**

151 E. Carson St.

Carson, CA 90745-2797

(310) 830-0901

Mon. - Thu.: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m., Fri.: 10 a.m. -

6 p.m., Sat.: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sun.: 1 - 5 p.m.

### **Regional Water Quality Control Board**

320 West 4th Street, Suite #200

Los Angeles, CA 90013

By appointment, please call (213) 576-6600 or fax your request to (213) 576-6717.

To access the complete administrative file for this project online, go to: <http://goo.gl/RGy28a> or [www.waterboards.ca.gov/rwqcb4/Kast/index.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/rwqcb4/Kast/index.shtml)

### **For More Information About This Project**

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### **Media Inquiries**

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